

the very kind of individualistic "business in which he was engaged.

At Christiania we were taken at once to the palace, where we stayed; and I could hardly speak too strongly of King Haakon, Queen Maud, and little Olaf. They were dears; we were genuinely sorry, when we left them, to think that we would never see them again; if ever Norway decides to turn Kerepublic we should love to have them come to live near Sagamore Hill.

Of course Norway is as funny a kingdom as was ever imagined outside of opera bouffe—although it isn't opera bouffe at all, for the Norwegians are a fine, serious, powerful lot of men and women. But they have the most genuinely democratic society to be found in Europe, not excepting Switzerland; there are only two or three states in the American Union which are as real democracies. They have no nobles, hardly even gentry; they are peasants and small townspeople—farmers, sailors, fisherfolk, mechanics, small traders. On this community a royal family is suddenly plumped down. It is much as if Vermont should offhand try the experiment of having a king. Yet it certainly seemed as if the experiment were entirely successful.

I was interested to find that the Norwegians in Aonerica had on the whole advised a constitutional kingdom rather than a republic, on the ground that the king would not in any way interfere with the people having complete self-government and yet would give an element of stability to the government, preventing changes from

being too violent  
and making a rallying point; one philosophic  
leader pointing out that this was not necessary in America,  
where people had grown to accept the republic as a  
historic ideal, in  
itself a symbol and pledge of continuity, but  
that in Norway the republic would not stand for any such  
ideal of  
historic continuity, and moreover would be  
looked down on  
by its monarchic neighbors—the last being a  
touch of apprehension on the score of possible international  
social inequality which was both amusing and  
interesting.

For such a kingdom, constituted of such  
materials and